DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 126 332 CE 007 466

TITLE Former UBC Extension Directors Reminisce 1936-1976.
INSTITUTION British Columbia Univ., Vancouver. Center for Continuing Education.
PUB DATE 76
NOTE 52p.

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.83 HC-$3.50 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Administrator Role; Adult Education; Adult Educators; Continuing Education Centers; Educational Administration; *Educational History; Extension Education; Foreign Countries; Professional Recognition; Program Descriptions; *Program Development; *University Extension
IDENTIFIERS Canada; *University of British Columbia

ABSTRACT

Although the roots of university extension activities at the University of British Columbia (UBC) go back further, the extension department was put on a firm basis in 1936, when the Board of Governors appointed Robert England as the first Director of Extension. University extension at UBC has been succeeded by a Center for Continuing Education, and to mark the event, the reminiscences by the four former extension directors has been published. In addition to England's, reminiscences by Gordon M. Shrum, John K. Friesen, and Gordon R. Selman, and a brief foreword and concluding remarks by the director of the new center, Jindra Kulich, comprise the document. The former directors recount how the extension department served the university as its major interface with the British Columbia community, venturing into new areas of service and pioneering activities, some of which were later incorporated by the university as new academic departments. Born in the midst of the Depression with the help of an outside grant, the department has always had to face financial difficulties and marginality, and varied administrative priorities, but it has always enjoyed support and ccoperation among many faculty members and the community it served. (Author/AJ)

****
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
****

ED126332

Former UBC Extension Directors Reminisce

1936–1976

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

CE007408

Vancouver, 1976

Centre for Continuing Education
The University of British Columbia

Published at Vancouver by the Centre for Continuing Education,
The University of British Columbia, to commemorate
the 40th anniversary of the foundation
of the Extension Department

This edition was issued in 200 copies, of which ten numbered copies were specially bound. Copies of the regular bound issue can be obtained from the Centre for Continuing Education.

These reminiscences

are dedicated to

all the professional,

secretarial and

support staff,

past and present,

who gave of their best

during the 40 years.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Editor's Foreword	3
Robert England: Forty Years Ago	5
Gordon M. Shrum: The Years of Growth	17
John K. Friesen: Blending the Old and the New	27
Gordon R. Selman: A Different Drummer	35
Envoy	49

EDITOR'S FOREWORD

Although the roots of university extension activities at UBC go further back, Extension was put on a firm basis forty years ago, on April 27, 1936, when the Board of Governors appointed Robert England as the first Director of Extension. The Centre for Continuing Education, the proud heir of the rich tradition and heritage of the Extension Department, wishes to mark the occasion by publishing this slim volume of personal reminiscences of the four former directors, all of whom are still alive.

These reminiscences of Robert England, Gordon Shrum, John Friesen and Gordon Selman have the flavour of the excitement they experienced and the challenge they faced in their times as Director of the Extension Department.

Challenge and response is the theme throughout the life of the Department. The following pages portray how the Department, under the able leadership of the four directors, served the University well as its major interface with the community throughout British Columbia, venturing into new areas of service and pioneering activities some of which later were incorporated by the University as new academic departments.

The reminiscences also remind us that, born in the midst of the depression with the help of an outside grant, the Department always had to face difficult financial circumstances and live in the shadow of marginality. Throughout its history, the Department has enjoyed the enthusiastic

support and co-operation among many faculty members; while the moral and financial support from the administration varied with the problems it faced and the priorities envisaged by the administration for the total University operation. The community always was an enthusiastic supporter of the Extension Department, seeing in it its link with "their university." The good will generated through the close faculty contact with the broad community throughout most of the forty years, brought into organized focus by the skills available in the Extension Department, stood the University in good stead.

The four directors built remarkably well upon each other's accomplishments, changing thrust and adapting to new needs and demands in the community and in the University as these arose. They provided the vision and the leadership--the dedicated and inspired staff, as the directors testify, provided the hard work to translate their vision into daily reality. Together, the Directors and the staff all served their University and their community well.

Jindra Kulich

FORTY YEARS AGO

1936 - 1937

Robert England

On 27th April 1936, I accepted, by telegram, appointment as Director of University Extension and Associate Professor of Economics, approved by the Governors of The University of British Columbia and tendered by President L.S. Klinck who confirmed his telegram by letter of April 28, 1936; adding:

> Permit me to express my great pleasure that you have become a member of the professorial staff of The University of British Columbia. I am confident that you will enjoy your new duties, and that you will find your associates congenial and co-operative.

My appointment dated from July first, without term.

Since 1920 I had been interested and active in adult education activities, particularly in ethnic group settlements in Western Canada and in rural school improvement and community organization. As Western Manager for the Departments of Colonization and Agriculture, C.N.R., between 1930 and 1936 I was much involved in Community Progress Competitions in co-operation with the provincial departments of education, health and agriculture and the extension services of the universities of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. A member of my staff concerned with land settlement and agricultural development in Central British Columbia, Harry Bowman (one of the five university-trained agriculturists who then were employed by the C.N.R. in our

departments) who was located at Prince George, later became Minister of Education in British Columbia.

Thus, I knew most agricultural leaders in Western Canada, and through the Institutes of International Affairs and Pacific Affairs, and folk-art societies, I had useful contacts in British Columbia. In May I left for Eastern Canada, the United States, Great Britain, Scandinavia and France, and visited the extra-mural departments of universities, St. Francis Xavier (Antigonish) adult education leaders, folk schools, co-operative and adult colleges, Dartington Hall in Devon, drama centres and the Workers' Educational Association in England, spending time with R.H. Tawney and Ernest Green (Secretary, W.E.A.), the late Tyrone Guthrie at the Old Vic in London, Fred Clarke (Education, London University) and Bill Rose (Slavonic Studies, London University). I renewed my association with E.A. Corbett of Alberta University and Dr. Dunlop of the Canadian Association of Adult Education and with Morse Cartwright and staff of the American Association of Adult Education in New York. I joined Dean Clement and President Klinck at Cambridge University for the British Empire Universities Conference in July. Each month during my travels I sent a report to Dr. Klinck.

In September I began work in an office in the Agricultural Building on the UBC Campus with Miss Youds as my efficient secretary. I have taped an account of the work attempted in 1936-37 and deposited it with the Centre for Continuing Education, and now, as requested, I wish to mention in a few pages some of the more personal reminiscences that I can still recall, which justify President Klinck's confidence that I would find my associates congenial and co-operative.

When I joined the staff the members were recovering from the cutbacks on salaries and financial support occasioned by the sharp depression and the policies and views of the former Tolmie government, especially Rev. Joshua Hinchcliffe, Minister of Education. I knew and liked Dr. Tolmie and I did business with his Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Atkinson, who had been an auctioneer. I always thought the Parliament Buildings in Victoria had the most pervasive atmosphere of suspicion and apprehension of any provincial legislative building in Canada, and the Ministers and senior officers seemed to operate under a heavy

blanket of uncertainty. On one point Mr. Atkinson was certain--he instructed his staff not to wear spats when appearing at agricultural fairs and farmers' institutes.

By 1936, under Premier Duff Pattullo, the Minister of Agriculture was a dentist, Dr. K.G. Macdonald who was reluctant to co-operate with UBC agricultural faculty staff in extension activities. I don't like my fellows "in bed with you fellows" he said to me. However he finally agreed, and supported splendidly joint courses, particularly by the Poultry Department. The Minister of Education and Provincial Secretary Dr. George M. Weir, formerly Head of the Education Department of UBC, was an old friend of Saskatchewan days; in the Pro-Recreation project under Ian Eisenhardt, the Drama in Schools under Major Bulloch-Webster, and Vocational Training under John Kyle, George Weir was an enthusiastic blazer of trails and gave me unstinted backing.

The financial stringencies had resulted in criticism of the proportion spent by the UBC agricultural faculty and farm, and introduced a split in the academic staff and an unhappy challenge to the President's judgment as to apportionment of the university budget on the part of those who favoured greater emphasis on the humanities and sciences. Fortunately a grant of $30,000 from the Carnegie Corporation, designated for adult education, became available to UBC; this was spent on lectures by the staff throughout the Province in 1935-36 and the balance of the grant was spent in 1936-37. Professor of Classics O.J. Todd organized imaginatively and efficiently the original lecture project, and gave me unselfish devoted help in continuing the programme. The agricultural faculty made me at home in their building, and welcomed me to their meetings and homes; a similar welcome was given me by all other faculties. Dean Daniel Buchanan took me for a walk into the woods and told me that I would find the President fair and generous, though he had been one of his opponents, and that I would hear no word from him as to past conflicts.

I was greatly stimulated by the freshness and vigour of the teaching staff. My views as to the variety and catholicity of disinterested education including humanities, sciences, art, music, agriculture, horticulture, folk-art, and manual arts were not disputed; everyone sought to help the new Department find its feet. My wife and I rented Professor (Classics) Harry Logan's

house, while he managed the Fairbridge Farm School near Duncan for the training of immigrant children, a unique enterprise that I enjoyed visiting.

Nearly every course or project of the Extension Department was an experiment, risking the prestige of the University; but the faculties, deans, and the President never doubted or complained. Astigmatic pedantry was unknown; moreover the fallacy and folly of didacticism--i.e. seeing a work of art or story as pointing a truth or a moral--were obvious to minds that had glimpsed excellence or developed aesthetic sense in the more recondite reaches of their loved subjects or profession; in short, the new university was blessed by distinguished specialists. So, in drama, music, art, parent-teacher courses, film society, extension bookshelves, the initiating of collection of audio-visual aids, panel discussions, lectures, radio, agricultural courses and demonstrations, when I proposed a plan, I never once was refused encouragement and help.

Of course, the campus and our offices were not all "sweetness and light"; and new projects not all "beer and skittles". I tried, for example, to get communities to accept a lecturer for three nights, so as to give a lecturer time to give a course. As our Extension budget was about $7,000, there was little to spare beyond my and my secretary's salaries and expenses; accordingly I had each local Extension Committee enroll its members as "Extra-mural Readers" at the fee of $1 per calendar year, as advertised by John Ridington, the UBC Librarian. One day John Ridington descended on me, when I had just taken two aspirins for a splitting headache and told me I'd need a whole bottle of aspirin when he got through with me. I promised consideration of separate Extension shelves; clearly meantime he was committed by his invitation to Extra-mural Readers in the Calendar. Soon after it was my turn to console our Librarian, when he burst in to my office to announce that he had been insulted. He had apparently greeted Professor A.F.B. Clark, a distinguished modern languages specialist and an authority on Pushkin, who had been walking with an absorbed pensive air on the campus with a too trite sort of "prithee why so pale and wan" to be met with the sharp retort "Mind your own business". I was aware specialists could be temperamental prima donnas, but I saw little of that.

Before I mention some other memories let me give a few instances of the enthusiastic support given the new Extension Department by the Board of Governors. Mrs. Evelyn F. Farris (whose husband, a distinguished lawyer, later was a senator) was a member and Secretary of the Board. Soon after arrival, my wife and I were welcomed as honoured guests to a dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Farris, and we were astonished to find that the guests chosen to meet us were two Chief Justices and another Justice of Appeal, and their wives. General Odlum, and the Hon. Eric Hamber, followed with hospitality at the Vancouver Club.

Percy B. Bengough, the highly esteemed labour leader who also was a Board member, helped me with starting workers' classes, and in following the lead of St. Francis Xavier University in encouraging co-operative courses and credit unions. I may remark that my successor, Dr. Shrum, scored a notable success in sympathetic determined support of educational activities in co-operatives among fishermen and youth training. Mr. Morgan M.A. who ran the bookstore, a Marxian socialist, supported classes with leftist groups who wanted scientists, such as Dr. Shrum, rather than economists, as lecturers.

The Victoria member of the Board, J.B. Clearihue, and his wife were kind hosts, and under his chairmanship I addressed a large meeting at the Empress Hotel on the perennial railway problem. Sherwood Lett and his wife gave us unqualified support and I may perhaps give a picture of his and General Odlum's help by quoting from E.A. Corbett's book We Have With Us To-night (Toronto 1957) (p. 121) as to his and Drummond Wren's visit to Vancouver in 1936, when Ned Corbett was the first Director of the Canadian Association for Adult Education and Drummond Wren the National Secretary of the Workers' Educational Association (W.E.A.):

> In Vancouver however, I think we more or less cancelled each other out. The meeting there was arranged by Robert England and my old friend Brigadier Sherwood Lett (now Chief Justice of B.C. and Chancellor of the University). A luncheon meeting had been planned and we met in the very posh (Vancouver) Club looking out over

> Vancouver Harbour. Quite a number of influential and wealthy businessmen attended, and Drummond and I were to speak briefly about the work we were trying to do. I spoke first, and made a plea...(for) CAAE. Drummond Wren was a very forceful and witty speaker and not the least bit ashamed of being a militant socialist. He spoke very strongly about the need for better labour-management relations and the part the W.E.A. could play...he took some hearty cracks at the kind of businessman who feared that education would have an unsettling effect upon working people...I had a feeling that our listeners were not deeply impressed...

On the same page Ned Corbett mentions the first editor of Adult Learning, Mrs. Adelaide Plumptre. I met this formidable lady at the Institute of Pacific Relations Conference in 1933, and as a Vice-President of CAAE sat beside her on the Board in 1936 when I recall persuading her to vote for a proposal to have the CAAE continue the employer contributions to the Carnegie Teachers Retirement Fund to which Ned Corbett had been a contributor when a member of the Athletic University staff. The assured Plumptre manner remains for us in Mrs. Beryl Plumptre.

In Winnipeg I had been a guest from time to time of her and Mrs. J.S. Woodsworth; when I came to UBC I was happy to meet again her daughter the charming Mrs. Grace McInnis and her husband in their home. I was also to enjoy the hospitality of Dr. Dorothy Steeves whose husband knew some friends of mine that had been fellow prisoners of war detained in the Netherlands, where he met the attractive well-educated advanced Socialist who, as his wife, made her mark in our political life in B.C.

I found co-operation easy with educationalists operating night schools such as the Vancouver School Board of which Miss A. B. Jameson, a Governor of UBC, was a member, while Edgar S. Robinson, Chief Librarian of Vancouver Public Libraries developed his notable series of lectures, and Margaret Clay in Victoria Public Library supported UBC Extension programmes in Victoria. I rode the Fraser Valley Regional Library Van with C.K. Morison,

who talked of the amazing Dr. Helen Stewart, with whose brother of Ninette Sanatorium I helped to start the Manitoba Adult Education Association around 1934.

President Klinck never refused a request or failed to support a venture, though I often must have strained his patience. I became a Vice-President of the new Film Society; we found we could hire a movie theatre only on Sundays. So in company with the Unitarian minister and as many influential citizens as we could muster I blatantly used the name of the University, to ask the Mayor and Council for permission to meet as a club for showings of films with no admission charges but restricted to paid-up club members. We were successful, and began a series which made documentary films and the name of John Grierson, and those of directors of European films, known to us. Knowing Dr. Klinck's strict Anabaptist ancestry and Sabbatarian up-bringing I now am a little surprised he never offered any hint of a disclaimer of my use of academic freedom. One day the President intimated to me that Mrs. Rogers wanted me to join the Board of the Vancouver Symphony I said that I had no musical training and would be quite inadequate as a member. Dr. Klinck replied that Mrs. Rogers specifically said she did not want any UBC representative who was a musician. I consented, and found the Board was confronted by implacable devastating criticism of each weekly concert by each of the critics on the dailies; their unrestrained satire and invective and parade of musical knowledge threatened the existence of the orchestra. In my time, the problem remained unsolved.

My relations with the "Province" and the "Sun" were good. M.E. Nicholls, Publisher of the Province was an old Winnipeg friend, and he insisted on a full page story about UBC Extension with a cartoon of me as a bell-ringing teacher by Boothe. Alan Morley on the "Sun" as a graduate of UBC could be relied on for careful frequent reporting of academic news.

In the early days, I usually told Dr. Klinck of any calls to be made of interest, and once I said that at the suggestion of my friend Archbishop Sinnott of Winnipeg I was going to call on Archbishop Duke, who had had a letter from his colleague in Winnipeg. Dr. Klinck immediately said that he had never had a conversation with him and asked to join me. So we had a very fruitful and happy interview.

Sometimes the initiative came from Dr. Klinck. For instance he asked me to Victoria to discuss the UBC budget with the Minister Dr. George Weir. I recall that Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Gibson (the parents of Dr. Bill Gibson, UBC Medical Faculty, and President Emeritus of Brock University Dr. James Gibson) gave us dinner, climaxing a successful day of visits to the Parliament Buildings in Victoria. Now, the Centre for Continuing Education has improved on that technique; its Director Dr. Walter Hardwick has moved to Victoria as Deputy Minister of Education to hear all about University budgets from Presidents.

In my day, we relied on Ira Dilworth for music; the gift of the Carnegie classical record collection was a great stimulus to musical appreciation on the campus and was well used by him for lectures. In drama, UBC was already in the van with Professor Freddy Wood and Dorothy Somerset as the leaders. Our small budget compelled the segregation of revenue and expenditure on a project basis, but we were able to back the University Players on a trip to points on Vancouver Island, and I had the pleasure of introducing "The Barretts of Wimpole Street" to an audience in West Vancouver. Once again I tried to ally our Extension with provincial departments. Major L. Bullock-Webster, an experienced actor, was the new organizer of school and community drama appointed by Dr. George Weir, Minister of Education. Dorothy Somerset was as aware as I was, that Major Bullock-Webster's task was not easy; he was a little apprehensive of the University having learnt in the hard school of theatre what was meant by scene-stealing and credits. But arrangements were made for the first weekend drama school at Invermere in June 1937. Trunks of stage costumes, makeup materials, supplies and texts of plays were shipped to Invermere, and on Sunday on the grounds of Lady Elizabeth Bruce Hospital the pupils, under the joint direction of these capable tutors, did two plays: The Chester Mysteries and two scenes from Julius Caesar. Skill, insight, tact, and charm marked all the drama instruction and guidance Dorothy Somerset gave to UBC, rightly acknowledged by her doctorate (honoris causa).

Radio gave us many opportunities, and we co-operated with the B.C. Electric in farm talks by members of the Faculty of Agriculture. I became Chairman of an advisory committee of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and with Inspector of Schools

Sullivan took the initial steps in school broadcasting. I also initiated negotiations for connecting the University with the local CBC. I had two curious rewards--a Coronation medal, and an offer of a senior post in the re-organized CBC under Gladstone Murray.

My lectures throughout the Province cost only my expenses, chargeable to the slender Departmental budget and not to the depleted Carnegie grant. I seemed to have been guest speaker to every convention in Vancouver. One of these was that of the Canadian Chartered Accountants, whose annual dinner I addressed on Kipling's poem "The Gods of the Copy-book Headings", the one profession that must endeavour to classify correctly and present clearly the whole truth, this, forty years before ICBC. It is good to recall my association with John Kyle and Col. Fairey in vocational training, Dr. C.E. Dolman in his pioneering of public health policies, Mrs. McCay in the folk festival, and with George Davidson, Alan Peebles and Harry Cassidy in their attempts to establish Medicare under the Minister, Dr. George Weir, before the computer age in an unfavourable climate of medical opinion.

Wherever possible we endeavoured to arrange courses in a series around a current topic or problem--Deans Buchanan, Clement and Finlayson with Professor Todd discussed higher education in a symposium sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, in Prince Rupert; the Parent-Teacher Association under its President Dr. W.G. Black had a day conference, led by the Minister, at which the controversial Dr. H.B. King (reformer of the curriculum, suspected by Prof. Lemuel Robertson of a dire plot to destroy Latin requirements in matriculation) was found more agreeable than in conference in the Parliament Buildings in Victoria. In the capital city we co-operated with the Extension Committee in a series The Georgian Period 1910-36, prepared a folder and a bibliography, and had the appropriate specialists deal with the history, economics, poetry, literature, position of women and mores. This Victoria table d'hote took the place of the smorgasbord of disconnected topics, and it says much for the audience that it was swallowed without protest.

The panel discussion method was new, and I described it in the Parent Teachers News: "In this method a group of four or five with a chairman discusses informally before the audience the subject chosen. There are several precautions to take...the

conversation should (have members talk to each other and) not to the audience...applause undesirable...adequate documentation available and a bibliographer to verify references and pass to members etc." These were counsels of perfection. I took the chair with a group that included Garnett Sedgewick on my left and Dorothy Steeves on my right--their love of an audience and platform polemics brought them to their feet and to applause--lots of fun but little quiet discussion that night.

Meantime, articles in the press covering interviews with economists Professors Drummond, Day and Carrothers indicated sharp disagreement as to a monetary agreement between Great Britain and the United States and the place of the gold standard. At once I sought out the Kiwanis Club, arranged for two half-hour lunch sessions with loudspeakers and microphones on a raised platform in semi-circular form. Dr. Henry Angus was chairman, and John Ridington as bibliographer secured from the members references to be used and had the books available; the Kiwanians had at their tables a brief summary of the issue involved. Under such a chairman, success was assured. One of my happy memories of that year was my attendance as one of the Department of Economics at the seminars for senior students under Henry Angus, the wise and tolerant head of the Department. Not only UBC and the Province but the people of Canada were to come to appreciate his statesmanlike gifts; John W. Dafoe described him to me as "the work-horse of the Rowell-Sirois Commission" in pre-World War II days.

Our next attempt to stage a public-address system type of panel discussion was at UBC; the subject was "Passchendale" and the merits and demerits of that grim battle of World War I were argued out before an audience, many of whom were survivors of that battle. John Ridington was our bibliographer, and the panel consisted of Professors Shrum, Carrothers and Soward and Col. (later Major-General) W.W. Foster, then Chief of Police of Vancouver, a very gallant gentleman who later was a keen supporter of my efforts as First Director of Canadian Legion Educational Services in World War II.

Public lectures by professors were events, and brought good audiences. A few days after the abdication of Edward VIII on Dec. 11, 1936, Prof. Garnett Sedgewick delivered a scholarly exposition on recent Shakespearean research, and at the end remarked

that in thinking of Edward's choice he recalled Antony's words embracing Cleopatra:

> Let Rome in Tiber melt and the wide arch
> Of the ranged empire fall! Here is my space,
> Kingdoms are clay: our dungy earth alike
> Feeds beast as man. The Nobleness of life
> Is to do thus ...

I can still recall the hush, for no comment on this amazing event in our history could have been more apt, and no one could have matched the drama of the utterance.

This seems to be my last chance to record my life-long gratitude to all members of the faculty and non-faculty staff who so enthusiastically helped to ensure the birth of the Department. To Miss Jean Auld of Classics who did the drawing of the Library for the posters we used; to the engaging horticulturalist Alden Barss; and indeed specially to my office neighbour of the Agricultural Faculty, the athletic Harry Warren; and that omnivorous reader--even of thrillers--Freddy Soward; C.W. Topping, sociologist and able penologist; the faithful Albert Cooke; the very Irish Paddy Carrothers; the agronomist and Swedish lover of folk-art Paul Boving, who did much to encourage President Klinck in his collecting of Copenhagen China. On my leaving UBC Dr. Klinck gave me as a token of his appreciation a lovely Danish beautifully designed bronze dish or platter seldom seen outside museums of fine arts--it recalls for me the donor's love of beautiful craftsmanship.

On September 2, 1937, the Board of Governors conveyed their thanks and appreciation in very generous terms, and on receipt of my final report on September 25, 1937, they were kind enough to re-iterate their appreciation. During August 1937 I made a speech on Town and Gown to the Kiwanis Club that drew favourable comment, and Garnett Sedgewick in his column noted that "the reaction of the press to that speech warms the whole university body to the heart" and among some flattering remarks he had these words: "As he goes away, we hope he will remember the story of the bread cast upon the waters and returning after many days".

In 1941, as Executive Secretary of the Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation at Ottawa, I went, with Mr. Walter Woods, Associate

Deputy Minister across Canada to tell provincial governments and universities about the provisions of P.C. 7633, the Re-Establishment Order, Veterans' Land Act and other measures to re-establish, on demobilization, veterans of World War II. The resumption of interrupted education by ex-service personnel under this plan would fill the colleges and universities.

I recall a lunch at which Garnett Sedgewick listened to our account of need for all-year operation and use of all facilities, and very amusingly he assumed the role of a tired and soon to be retired professor appalled by the prospects, but in his heart he enjoyed full classrooms.

When in 1945 and 1946 I was Chairman of a Federal Committee on University Requirements and struggling to keep in limbo--between declared surplus by Army and sale by War Assets--hundreds of huts and much equipment, who was moving in Vancouver large out-sized huts at night by special permission, long before I saw any papers accounting for them and while I was being pressed by Defence Department treasury officers to clear up the accounts? None other than that indomitable Director of Extension of UBC, Gordon Shrum--before he retired from UBC and turned his attention to harnessing rivers, building dams, and that castle on a mountain, Simon Fraser University. Now that he and I are eighty plus, he is Director of a Museum, and I am content with more modest pursuits.

THE YEARS OF GROWTH

1937 - 1953

Gordon M. Shrum

So we are having a birthday--the fortieth. For individuals and probably also for institutions this is a very important milestone. There is an old adage that life begins at forty. Whether or not it applies to organizations and institutions is not very important, because I am convinced it has no validity even for individuals. Personally, I have now completed four decades on either side of forty and would say that I have not noticed any great difference. I am now thinking that life probably begins at eighty!

In spite of the discrepancies in the life spans of individuals and institutions, it may be possible that some interesting comparisons can be made for the earlier years of both. As in the case of individuals, institutions are not born suddenly; they too are preceded by a gestation period, albeit a variable one. In fact, we might draw a useful comparison with the animal world and note that the longer the gestation period, the longer the life span of the creature. This interesting relationship augurs well for the Extension Department because although it was born in 1936 it did have a long gestation period variously estimated at about twenty-one years. When I came to the university over fifty years ago, there was clear visual evidence around the institution that an Extension Department was "in the works". Otis J. Todd, one of the Professors of Classics, as the Secretary of an Extension Lectures Committee, appeared to be in charge of pre-natal care. The main activity of this Committee was to provide university lecturers for various organizations throughout the province. I participated in these, so although I can make no

claims regarding parenthood of the Department, one might say I did contribute towards the pre-natal care.

An unexpected infusion of funds from the Carnegie Corporation of New York produced the excitement that terminated the pregnancy and Bob England was brought from Winnipeg as Chief Obstetrician to deliver the offspring. Unfortunately for the University, but fortunately for me, Bob England stayed only long enough to make certain that the child was normal. Although by university standards at that time he was paid a princely salary of $4,800 per year, Sir Henry Thornton wanted him back in Winnipeg to help run the C.N.R. and he succumbed to the even more handsome material rewards and stimulating challenges offered by Sir Henry.

Bob England certainly left his mark on the fledgling department. He explored innumerable avenues for development and enlisted the support of nearly every cultural group in the area. In fact, for years his influence seemed to permeate the whole range of possible activities of the Department to such an extent that one member of the staff, Bob McKenzie, commented "There will always be an England."

I was appointed as Bob England's successor in September 1937 and at the same princely salary. I had come to the University in 1925 as an Assistant Professor at a salary of $2,500. During a few ensuing years I was lucky to get some small increases in salary, but during the depths of the Great Depression these were pretty well wiped out by a salary reduction for all members of Faculty. Although I had been interested in the work of the Extension Department in Dr. Todd's time and had been one of the proponents for spending a large part of the Carnegie grant on the establishment of a properly organized department, I must confess that the handsome salary probably did more than anything else to induce me to move from Physics to Bob England's newly organized and exciting department. He had given it a glamour, even I might say a charisma, which I don't believe it has ever subsequently attained.

Bob England accomplished many things during the short time he was the Director. One in particular that affected me as his successor was that he succeeded in spending or committing all that was left of the Carnegie grant for Extension. When I took over the highly paid job I had one staff member--a very beautiful,

charming and surprisingly efficient secretary, Margaret Youds--and no funds. Expectations ran high and to meet them without money was an almost overwhelming challenge.

I do not propose to write a history of the early years of the Extension Department, certainly not in a few pages. Further I do not relish competing with such well known and accomplished authors as Bob England, John Friesen and Gordon Selman. Those who are interested in the history of the Department should read Gordon Selman's "A History of Fifty Years of Extension Service by The University of British Columbia 1915 to 1965", published in 1966 by the Canadian Association for Adult Education. I have a special interest in encouraging my friends to read it because no one ever has, or will, treat me so generously. I only wish I had done more to deserve his praise for my contribution towards the development of Extension work in B.C.

Instead of attempting to compete with Gordon Selman in giving a capsule history of the early days of the Department I shall recall only a few highlights mainly involving people. This, of course, is a very dangerous and unfair approach as in the space available I can only mention a few of the many who contributed so much towards the building of a comprehensive education program for adults.

At the time Dr. Klinck was the President of the University. Although he gave his staunchest support to the newly created department, it didn't help much with our financial woes. From the very beginning he ruled that the new department should not be involved in any way with courses for university credit. Thus, right from the beginning, this relatively easy source of revenue was denied us. Looking back, this was a very wise decision by the President. Without it we might have diverted our energies, as some other universities were doing, towards the provision of credit courses, mainly for teachers, and neglected the much more arduous and important task of building an adult education program for citizens in all walks of life.

In the mid-thirties, the most successful single adult education program in all Canada, if not North America, was at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. It was mainly a program to develop co-operatives and credit unions amongst an underprivileged group of people--the fishermen of the

Atlantic provinces.

What was known as the "Antigonish program" was well advertised and was attracting world-wide attention. Except for one well organized Fishermen's Co-operative at Prince Rupert, there were in 1937 no well established co-operatives amongst the fishermen in British Columbia and there were no credit unions in B.C. In fact, there was very little known about the latter and how they functioned. Since B.C. fishermen enjoyed considerably higher incomes than their counterparts in the Maritimes, it seemed logical that co-operatives and credit unions should have even greater possibilities here. In any case I decided to copy and adapt the Antigonish program for our fishermen.

Normally the first step would have been to send someone from B.C. to Nova Scotia to confer with the people at St. Francis Xavier and to study their programs, methods and results. Unfortunately there was no money for such a trip. We gathered what information we could by correspondence and then arranged to bring two staff members from St. Francis Xavier to B.C. to conduct a short course on co-operatives and credit unions. The two people selected were senior staff members from St. F.X.--the Reverend Nelson McDonald and Alex MacIntyre.

As I recall, they were scheduled to arrive here by train late on a Saturday afternoon in January 1938. Since St. Francis Xavier was a Roman Catholic institution, the Archbishop volunteered to have someone meet the train and take them to their hotel. He also arranged to have the Reverend McDonald participate in the Sunday morning Mass. As it turned out, there was a little embarrassment all around. Although St. F.X. was a Catholic university, this did not prevent them from employing the best people available for any particular job, and it turned out that the Reverend Nelson McDonald was actually a Presbyterian Minister. However, the hospitality was extended to them and only the arrangements for Rev. McDonald to conduct the Mass had to be cancelled. Incidentally we later borrowed another of the St. F.X. staff members for six months to help us. He too turned out to be a Protestant--a Methodist trained at Victoria College in Toronto. His name was Norman MacKenzie, but he was no relation to one by the same name who later became our well known and distinguished President.

The men who came out from Antigonish were dedicated to the

co-operative movement and were excellent teachers. The man mainly responsible for initiating the work in Antigonish, Father Tompkins, was not able to come here during the early stages of the program, but he did visit us later and was delighted with the success which had been achieved through our joint efforts. The most popular public speaker from Antigonish was A.B. MacDonald and he visited us several times for brief periods. He was in great demand as a speaker from coast to coast throughout North America, and was affectionately known as "A.B.". He was not a priest, although I believe his brother, the President of St. F.X., was. I think he graduated from O.A.C. in Guelph and was attracted to Antigonish because of his interest in co-operatives. He could inspire audiences with his great enthusiasm and lively wit. I can remember him telling an audience about the tremendous success of a funeral co-operative in Regina. He said, "Why, people are just dying to get in."

The co-operative program amongst B.C. fishermen was a success from the very beginning and as a result we received some funding for it from the Federal Department of Fisheries. This enabled us to strengthen the co-operative in Prince Rupert and to establish new co-operatives, not only amongst fishermen but with other groups in the province.

Even more successful was the work with the credit unions. When this program was started by the department there was not a single credit union in the whole of B.C.

One evening I took Ned Corbett to the North Arm of the Fraser River to meet with a small group of fishermen who were studying our short course on credit unions. Ned had already established at the University of Alberta the largest and most progressive Extension Department in Canada. He was also the founder and creator of the Banff School of Fine Arts, and later his successor, Senator Donald Cameron, established the well known and highly regarded Banff School of Business Administration. Although Corbett came from one of the two provinces in Canada that does not border on salt water and thus had no off-shore fishermen, he appreciated the great potential of our program and wanted to see it in action.

The group we visited had arrived at the point where they felt they should make a start on raising the capital for a credit union, so they decided to take up a collection from the members

present. Incidentally, we were strongly advised by the Nova Scotia people not to rush into the establishment of a credit union until the potential members had received a thorough grounding in the fundamental principles involved. I do not recall the exact amount they collected, but it was under $20. As of February 27, 1976 that same credit union has assets of over twenty-two million dollars and loans to its members of over nineteen million dollars.

As a physicist I felt some inhibitions about taking on the responsibilities of developing an Extension Department and an adult education program that should traditionally put the emphasis on the Humanities and Social Sciences. To help conceal any psychological restraints and to minimize any public criticism of the suitability of my background for the position as Director of the Department, I decided to demonstrate, as early as possible, that I was not going to put the emphasis on science and technology. My very first appointment was a specialist in Theatre--Dorothy Somerset. As later events so clearly demonstrated, I could not have made a better choice. I do not think that any one person added more to the prestige and recognition of the Department. Miss Somerset brought distinction not only in Theatre but in all phases of the Arts. She developed playreading groups, our libraries for plays, musical recordings and books, our Summer Schools in Drama, Art, Music and Opera and many other activities related to the Arts. To me, her greatest achievements were associated with the Summer School of the Theatre. In this she had to compete with such well established and financed schools as the Banff School of Fine Arts; however she did it very successfully. She attracted outstanding directors to assist her in the work. I remember best of all her very first school with Ellen Van Volkenburg as guest director. The culminating point of that School was the production of Euripides' *Trojan Women* in which Mrs. E.B. Clegg played the lead role of Hecuba. Another exciting production was *Our Town*, of which I believe Mr. and Mrs. James of Seattle were guest producers. The fee for the full six-week course including participation in the play was $25. Miss Somerset eventually left the Department to establish a Department of Theatre in the University.

At times I found the demands of Extension, Physics, the C.O.T.C. and other extra-curricular activities almost more than

one person could handle. Finally I went to Dr. Klinck and informed him that if I couldn't have some assistance at the administrative level I would have to give up the Extension work. He was very sympathetic and somehow found a little money for me to hire an Administrative Assistant. I selected a young man in his final year in the Teacher Training course, Bob McKenzie, who was an instant success, more as a lecturer in Current Affairs than as an Administrative Assistant, a position for which I don't believe he had much liking. In any case, it was only a few months later that I had to go back to the President and tell him I now needed two Administrative Assistants, one for myself and one for Bob McKenzie.

This was just one of the many examples in which Extension can take the credit for launching a staff member in a distinguished career. Bob McKenzie is now not only a Professor of Political Science at the famed London School of Economics but also one of the best known authors and broadcasters in the United Kingdom.

No account of the department could neglect the Youth Training Program. In the spring of 1938 I accidentally discovered that the Technical Branch of the Department of Education in Victoria had some funds from the Labour Department in Ottawa which they had to spend before the end of the fiscal year in March. The money had been voted to help give technical training to young people in the rural areas. I was able to get some of the money to put on two travelling schools in the lower Fraser Valley. Fortunately there were two part-time assistants available in the Faculty of Agriculture. One was a specialist in beekeeping and the other in poultry husbandry. We rented a truck for each and packed them with demonstration equipment and sent them out to the various towns and centres in the lower Fraser Valley. They made one-day stops and during the six weeks we pretty well blanketed the Valley. Mainly because the instructors were so dedicated and the methods so unorthodox, the programs were outstandingly successful. This success enabled us to approach the Federal Labour Department for an expanded program to cover the whole province. We were successful in getting a substantial grant and in the fall of 1938 we launched the Rural Leadership Schools.

The success of this program again depended upon securing the right people and meeting a need by unconventional methods. Ken Caple gave up his position as Principal of a school in Summerland and took a substantial reduction in salary to be head of the program. Again he was just the right person for the job. There would be no point in describing the difficulties which the staff had to overcome and the hardships which they endured, because you would not believe them. There were five full-time instructors for the School and they travelled in an old Ford car that had spent most of its useful life as a U-drive. How they managed to transport five people with their personal baggage and instructional equipment in one car I never understood.

Ken Caple's second in command was Art Renney, a recent graduate in agriculture. The Schools were so successful that for the second year we had to put on a second team to meet the demand from all parts of B.C.--from Smithers to Fernie to Hazelmere--wherever a vacant hall could be found. Art Renney became Principal of the second School. Attendance was somewhat enhanced by the attractiveness of the young women on the staff. Betty Strachan in Home Economics and Kay Milligan in Animal Husbandry attracted more than their share of admirers amongst the farm youths. However, when Kay Milligan climbed into the pigpens and started expounding on the fine points of the animals she made it abundantly clear that she had been hired because of her technical knowledge and not as Queen of the Extension Department!

Whether it was in spite of or because of the trying conditions under which they worked, a few romances developed not only between students and staff but also internally amongst the staff. However, if the wise counselling of Ken Caple was not sufficient we could always cope with the situation by re-arranging the staff between the two Schools. That was a time when tenure was not an important consideration in university circles.

A chronicle of the Extension Department would not be complete without reference to two mainstays of the staff--Jessie Stewart and Marjorie Smith. I was informed that Jessie Stewart was one of the most outstanding and versatile instructors in handicrafts in all Canada. I finally located her in New York City and used this as an excuse for a trip to New York to

interview her. We went to a show and later the same evening she promised to join our staff. Her contributions to the work of the Department could not be over-estimated.

Marjorie Smith was a somewhat easier person to recruit. She was a recent honours graduate in Classics from the University of Saskatchewan. She came into my office one day in 1938 looking for a job. The only thing I could offer her was a position as a junior stenographer. She took it and progressed rapidly and steadily to become one of the most valuable senior staff members in the department. Gordon Selman's history gives the details regarding the importance of her contribution to the overall program.

Probably my main distinction as Director is that I held the position for sixteen years--longer than my predecessor or any of my successors. During my thirty-six years at UBC I served in many capacities, but I do not think I enjoyed any of them more than my work with Extension. Certainly I never derived greater satisfaction from any assignment I have ever had. We were lucky to have a very loyal, hard-working staff dedicated to the idea of improving the lot of all citizens through education which, although it might not be at a university level, at least stemmed from the University. We were a very happy family and all members of the staff helped build the reputation of the Department for which I received the lion's share of the credit.

All too infrequently did I have an opportunity to be of some personal service to the staff. Late during World War II we were engaged in offering courses in personnel administration, mainly for members of management employed in war industries. One of these courses was held in the Officers' Mess in the UBC Armoury. I introduced the course and concluded my remarks by saying that if I had not covered all the points and they required additional information Mrs. X., who had taken their registrations at the entrance, would be happy to help them. As I was leaving she said, "Why did you have to say Mrs.?" Incidentally, there was no such thing as Ms. at that time. The next morning when I met the group I referred to her as Miss X. That evening she had a date with one of the members of the class and within a brief time they were married. She is now the wife of a senior executive in Vancouver, who I hope has not forgotten some of the lessons in

personnel management. So much for the advantages of Ms.

I have exhausted the space allocated to me and I still have not mentioned a large number of key people like Bob Boroughs, Kelvin Large, Ernie Perrault, Norman Barton, Allan and Marion Des Champs, Lillian Camerman and many others. Those I have missed I will include if I am asked to write a similar story for the fiftieth anniversary celebration.

I should, of course, have mentioned one of my principal secretaries, Helen Harmer. I have left her to the very end because she was the only one that I can recall who ever deserted me except to get married or because of marriage. When Larry MacKenzie arrived on the campus as President in 1944 he enquired who had the best secretary on the campus and the unanimous reply was Shrum. Thus I lost Mrs. Harmer, but later he in turn lost her when she became Mrs. Belkin. If these anecdotes smack in any way of Peyton Place that is unfortunate because there is no similarity--these are all true story romances.

BLENDING THE OLD AND THE NEW

1953 - 1966

John K. Friesen

Reminiscences come effortlessly to us all. However, when I was asked to present a ten-page paper on my thirteen years in UBC Extension, I found a remembrance of things past an overwhelming undertaking. These years were for me just about the most intense and exciting ever. Hence I am confronted, as were no doubt my honoured colleagues, with selecting but a few vistas in a vast landscape of experience. Fortunately for UBC and the wider record, the history of UBC Extension has been carefully documented by its able historian, Gordon Selman. Hence, as suggested, my remarks will be a ramble over the period 1953 to 1966.

What were my first contacts with the Department? I believe they took place at CAAE meetings in the late 1940s where I met Gordon Shrum and Geoff Andrew. Larry MacKenzie was already a leader par excellence among university presidents. He had always displayed a keen interest and particiration in adult education. These three men displayed a unique west coast enthusiasm for innovation in continuing education.

When in 1953 Gordon Shrum decided to bow out of the directorship of Extension for an armful of other university portfolios, Marta and I received a visitor in Winnipeg from a member of UBC's Board of Governors in the person of Kenneth Caple. He informed me that the University was looking about for an Extension Director. As I had also been involved in Farm Forum and other CBC programs, Ken Caple and I soon found many other common topics to explore. He also was proud to mention that one

of his important previous posts had been with the Extension Department in their province-wide Dominion Provincial Youth Training Schools. By the way, I hope his rollicking episodes on Ma Murray will some day see print.

Shortly thereafter, Gordon Shrum suggested I visit Vancouver. To test my physical mettle, he put me up in one of a cluster of wartime huts called Acadia Camp. The Department likewise was housed in huts which Gordon Shrum had conveniently moved near the Physics Department building in order to facilitate his rapid commuting. Although I had roughed it in my days in air force hutments abroad and in many a western community hall and farm home, the thought did occur to me that I was exchanging my Wheat Pool Office at the corner of Winnipeg's Portage and Main with somewhat more spartan quarters. It was later that I discovered the huts had most fortunately provided the only roof the University owned to contain the bursting enrolment.

A personal and primary consideration was to compare the work in University Extension with my previous, more general, adult education activities. In reflecting on the move from Columbia University to Manitoba and possibly on to British Columbia, I was soon convinced that the UBC post was one broad enough to provide abundant satisfactions. As for living in Vancouver, what snow-bound, western Canadian would not prefer it, even though he had to learn an entirely new west coast vocabulary so he would display fluency in extolling the glories of the Pacific Northwest--keeping the voice subdued of course when the subject of the B.C. Lions came up!

A change of residence of course pre-supposed family agreement. In this and other transfers, I was blessed with a most co-operative partner. While it was her first trip to the west coast, somehow Marta's intuition told her the move would be in the right direction. And so she and I and Melanie and Robert settled temporarily at Acadia Camp. For the Friesens, living in Vancouver turned out to be delightful.

I soon discovered that the existing Extension enterprise covered a very interesting sweep of programs. In initiating them, Gordon Shrum had displayed a sixth sense as to needs and trends in rural and urban B.C. His ability to communicate

effectively with the public at all levels had also made Extension a household word to many British Columbians and a challenge to community conscious faculty members.

In order to keep all aspects of the programme moving and to devote adequate time for planning, I realized that the Department needed a strong deputy director. How fortunate we were to lure Gordon Selman from Ottawa back to his native province. So we linked arms, and for more than a decade worked as a close team. Without him, the Department would not have progressed as it did; with him, administrative problems were much easier to solve and staff relations stimulating. And on my leaving the Department, the most obvious of appointments UBC made was to put Gordon Selman into the director's chair.

On looking back at our inner-office chats, I admit we had our moments of truth to face. Many a faculty member for instance, wondered how many sound budget dollars were going down the drain in the pottery huts; or what our dear Alice Borden was celebrating with her children's classes in Acadia Camp; or what we thought ordinary folk could glean, through Living Room Learning, from Lucretius, Newton or Freud. Was this really higher education?

When it came to meetings to allocate the budget, at which discussions we were joined by Trevor Matthews, Jack Blaney and Knute Buttedahl, let us admit it, we were repeatedly forced to rob professional Peter in order to pay humanist Paul. Budgets can be sobering and for us, never more so than the time Jack Macdonald and the Board dropped the axe on a large segment of our activities with thousands of saddened Extension clientele throughout B.C. witnessing our budget scramble. We survived that storm.

There were also the amusing episodes. In evaluating a farmers' course held in Acadia Camp immediately next door to a fisheries course, one farmer in his evaluation sheet responded to the question "What did you like best about the agricultural course?". He wrote: "What I liked about farming is fishing". Post-classroom chats did pay off for him. Then there was the incident of the private fisheries companies knitting their brows when the subject of extension courses for co-operatives in

Prince Rupert was mentioned. As was a popular pastime in the 1950s, we too were at one juncture accused of harbouring a Communist on our staff. Well, Gordon Selman and I looked everywhere and could not locate such a person. After all, B.C. politics was then in a state of perpetual stability. Few seemed to admit voting for Mr. Bennett, yet somehow his majority at the polls was consistently impressive. And I am now told: like father, like son.

Where in time and space was adult education in British Columbia in 1953? We found it was only beginning to wake up to its possibilities. Bert Wales and his Vancouver School Board staff and the Victoria School Board program were fine examples of what school authorities could and would eventually achieve in continuing education. A host of voluntary agencies, as their understanding consultant Marjorie Smith knew best, were courageously pioneering in adult education. A few could even be termed veterans in the field. Bob England's innovative programs in rural development on the prairies during the depression decade showed through in some B.C. district projects. For UBC Extension, two allies in the field, both born during the trying years of war, were CBC's Forum series and the National Film Board. Gordon Shrum made sure that his staff was thoroughly committed to such media offerings as National Farm Radio Forum and NFB film circuits and the film library. Norman Barton, Graydon Roberts, Jessie Stewart and the rest--where are you now?

How was University Extension to serve the people after the mid-century? The question we increasingly asked ourselves was this: "As we can't be all things to all men--and women--what is the University's unique role in continuing education?" It had been demonstrated that the Department could effectively respond to community needs by involving faculty and expertise from business and the professions. After lengthy staff sessions and with solid support and leadership from President MacKenzie, Dean Geoffrey Andrew and a select number of deans and department heads, we began to change a few directions. Chancellor Lett and Board Chairman Nemetz were with us as was also the Alumni Association. We began to develop more continuing professional education, first in agricultural extension to which Dean Eagles and his staff had for years given keen support and in my day, Alan Des Champs and later Graham Drew administered; in health

sciences and business administration, both of which however turned more and more to directing their own continuing education programs; the faculty of education which had endless requests to meet in the profession, in collaboration with the Department of Education and the B.C. Teachers Federation. In 1966, thanks to Jack Blaney's staunch efforts, engineering and law programs were organized. There were many other professional programs--among others, in librarianship, with architects, in community planning, and with social agencies.

In both credit and non-credit programs, the Department needed above all else to co-opt competent teaching staff. In looking back, I must say the faculties provided a goodly number of enthusiasts who took time out--even though this extra-curricular work did not merit academic rewards--to write and conduct correspondence courses, or to fly to outlying communities on weekends to teach classes. On the credit-free side, many more faculty members helped to turn the campus lecture halls into a well-lighted evening campus. MaryFrank Macfarlane ran this impressive and many-faceted activity with an expert hand from Jo Lynne Hoegg.

Browsing through the records of Extension in North American universities in those years, one notes several outstanding UBC programs that earned international merit awards. These were invariably in the fields of the liberal arts. This was not unexpected. Consider the lively programs directed by Hank Rosenthal and Gerry Savory, the most imaginative courses promoted by Lillian Zimmerman and later by Sol Kort, the Living Room Learning groups organized throughout B.C. by Knute Buttedahl, and if I am permitted to add it, the initial study travel activity initiated by Marta Friesen, much extended and refined in subsequent years to encompass travel to places as far afield as Tashkent and Peking.

If these courses stirred the imagination of the other Canadian Extension Departments, another exciting development was taking place in the fine arts. Dorothy Somerset's and Sydney Risk's drama program in extension, conducted for many years before I came to the campus, and the painting and ceramic classes and music offerings--none of which had formal university departments at that time--were highly popular. When Nicholas

Goldschmidt joined the staff, the Summer School of the Fine Arts added another program dimension and a dynamic artistic director. Now came a crowning event. It was Niki, Geoff Andrew, Iby Koerner, Mary Roaf and art-conscious community leaders like them who dared to envisage and then organize the Vancouver International Festival. Tony Guthrie, during one of his several terms with the Festival, had a word for it. He said a festival should give the community "a sense of occasion". The VIF eminently did so. It also richly augmented the fare of our campus summer school. How proud we were to have in our midst persons like Herbert von Karajan, George London, Pierrette Alarie, Maureen Forrester, Lois Marshall, Schick, Kolodin, Lipschitz, Lindfors, Herbert Read, Plaskett and de Tonnancour, and Lawren Harris next door to grace many an occasion--these and many others contributed an unforgettable experience for Festival audiences. The VIF appreciably raised artistic sights. In this grand experiment in the arts, the Extension Department played a pioneer and continuing role. A poet of the Far East articulated what many B.C.'ers at the time must have realized: "If you have two loaves of bread, sell one and buy a white chrysanthemum for your soul".

Referring again to facilities, how fortunate we were that, more than any other university department, our extensive adult program had the run of virtually the whole campus. In fact, even the old huts came to have a cosiness about them that makes one half nostalgic for those good old days. When the time finally came for the Department to move to more adequate quarters, I shared from far-off in Iran, the feeling of elation displayed in a photo that appeared in UBC Reports in October 1970. There stood our Jack Blaney and Gordon Selman beaming at the attractive CCE edifice on Chancellor Boulevard. One seemed to be saying to the other: "Man, we've come a long way".

On another front, many of you will recall the tense faculty debates of the 1960s concerning "research versus teaching". I do not recall who won the battle but while all this was going on, adult education, always strong on teaching, was quietly launching a research establishment of its own. After all, adult educators were an emerging profession. The public schools of the province were rapidly expanding their adult education enterprise as were some university faculties. Then there were

the new institutions of higher learning, including the prospect of several community colleges. Dean Scarfe was enthusiastic in support of a Department of Adult Education; if he had not been so, Alan Thomas would have talked him into it as capable Alan was already teaching the initial AE courses in the Faculty. We all searched far and wide for a director and fortunately found the right senior professor--Columbia educated, let me proudly add--in the person of Coolie Verner. In the early years Coolie almost single-handedly built up a Department with a graduate program of teaching and research that pioneered this field in Canada. After some time, Dickinson, Niemi, Thornton and Selman, among others, were appointed faculty members of the Department.

The Extension staff was also engaging in research; perhaps more descriptive than the analytical expertness of their later studies as listed in the annual reports. Among others, Ken Woodsworth's recent list on law research makes impressive reading as always did Jack Blaney's and other contributors.

In recent years a trend, both in the Centre and in the Adult Education Department, has been a reaching out to link up with colleagues not only in the more familiar U.S. and U.K. institutions but in Europe, Africa, Asia and latterly in South America. Our Rajasthan/UBC project of the 'sixties was an earlier example. As I recall that undertaking for those of us who participated, serving in the sub-continent really shook us out of our familiar Canadian ways. So also did my previous visits to East Asia, thanks to UNESCO, and to Africa's adult education institutions, and to post-war Europe in which our seminar itinerary took us from Gothenburg to Rome. It was left to Jindra Kulich to formalize the study of comparative adult education--an interest that came late to Canadian educators and that has immeasurably extended our sights and our appreciation of permanent education in cultures other than our own.

Was it only yesterday or was it really a decade ago that the Extension staff bade me farewell at the Vancouver Airport? Somehow it seems no time at all, but admittedly much water has since flowed under the Fraser and Mekong bridges.

As I reminisce on my happy days on this magnificent UBC

campus, I confess that among all others, one figure always rises very tall and very strong and very dear. He is my most unforgettable character. Larry MacKenzie's unfailing support in our work and his kindness and understanding as a friend to all--these the people of this province and this Canada, and we his Extension co-workers, have always held in highest regard.

And to all our former and, may I add, current staff--and that includes my indispensable former secretaries Marion Des Champs, Mary Medland, Audrey Campbell and Genia Kaye--let me say this: Of any and all professional pursuits from which to select, you picked a winner! Continuing education has grown to be of immense import in the developed societies, and believe me, of even more significance for our world neighbours in less developed lands. Continuing education is ever the pioneer and its aspiring clientele always remain beginners--you displayed this essential daring, even audacity. Continuing education is a comparatively new field--you proved to be innovative. Continuing education is the most satisfying pursuit for one's own personal development--you stayed with it and I am certain found your reward. A few of our former family--Vic Hill and Geoffrey Matthews--are no longer with us. Others have left to assume important positions elsewhere: Alan Thomas, Bert Curtis, Mary Medland, Graydon Roberts, Alan Des Champs, Trevor Matthews, Jim Currie, Jack Blaney, Knute Buttedahl, et al.

Indeed, we had an exciting journey on the good ship Extension. As for the next forty years--bon voyage.

37

A DIFFERENT DRUMMER

1967 - 1975

Gordon R. Selman

When I learned in the fall of 1966 that I had been selected to succeed John Friesen as Director of the Extension Department, I was impressed and pleased, and I knew I had quite a job on my hands. I was impressed because I had carried out considerable research on the history of extension work at UBC and I was aware of the magnificent contributions which had been made by my predecessors since the founding of the Department in 1936.

Robert England, although he was Director for only one year, helped to establish the work on a solid and satisfactory foundation in terms of basic philosophy, administrative policies and relationships in both the University and the community. Gordon Shrum was the master builder of the Department. From 1937 to 1953, he had transformed it--on very slender resources--from the newest and smallest department in the country to one of the largest and best known. Its reputation rested not only on his operational resourcefulness, but also on the calibre of the people he attracted to the work and the goals on which his leadership focussed--to contribute to the general social and cultural advancement of the province. I worked alongside John Friesen for almost all of his thirteen years as Director and knew his work intimately. He had responded to the changing educational scene in the province by moving the department's program towards a more leadership-oriented and professional level approach. His remarkable capacity to develop strong personal relationships with a wide range of people was a keystone of a personal style which attracted loyalty and co-operation among his own staff and with a wide range of strategic people in the community. The work had made important progress under his leadership. With the help of

these men, the Extension Department had gained a high and well-deserved reputation throughout North America and beyond. I was impressed with the responsibility I was undertaking in becoming the Department's fourth Director.

Of course I was also pleased. I had spent most of my working life in the Extension Department and was committed to its goals. After gaining some further experience in the President's office for two years, I believed there was a contribution I could make to the advancement of the University's work through extension, and I was happy to be rejoining respected colleagues in that task.

I considered it to be a reasonably familiar but formidable responsibility I was undertaking. The University's well known and widely respected policy of strong support for its extension work had been shattered in late 1964 by the action of the President and the Board when they slashed the budget of the Department. They had in effect changed the institution's view of at least all the non-degree aspects of extension from something which the institution owed the community to something the community somehow had to deserve (and fully pay for). The consequences of this action are with us still; they were certainly very much to the fore in 1967, when I took up my duties as Director. They affected not only the financial base of operations, but also campus attitudes towards the goals, program and personnel of the Department.

When I rejoined the Department, the situation was far from cheerless. I was taking up the task in the company of a group of colleagues many of whom I knew well and all of whom had a strong sense of the importance of what they were doing. They were accustomed to the problems of the marginality of extension work, and although since the axe had fallen in 1964, they were (as Cromwell once described his army) "under a deep sense of some sufferings", they had adjusted well and most of them had considerable experience in the work. I also found that there was a readiness on the part of the deans and others with whom I worked to treat the "new boy" with fairness and to look at matters of mutual interest with a fresh eye. President John Macdonald left the University soon after I took on the new job, and was succeeded briefly by Dr. Kenneth Hare, and then for the

balance of the period by Dr. Walter Gage. Both of these men were easy to work with and the team of President Gage and Dean William Armstrong with whom I worked for most of the period, were unfailingly sympathetic, accessible and ready to consider whatever case could be put forward in the interests of our program.

As anyone would under such circumstances, I undertook my new duties with certain priorities in mind. Generally, I was committed to what had been the line of the development of extension work at our University since its early days. I believed that UBC, as a public university, had an obligation to its community to contribute what it could to the welfare of our people, not only by means of the traditional intramural teaching and research, but also through various forms of community service, including adult education programs. The UBC extension work had gained a reputation over the years for being strongly staffed, ready to experiment and innovate, responsive to local needs and committed to non-degree programming over a range of general education and occupational areas.

I wanted to build on that strength and to develop other programs as well. And I saw clearly that our program must be developed in the changing provincial context, in the light of, and in consultation with the work of the two new public universities and the developing college system. In keeping with the social reform tradition which had been characteristic of some adult educators since the beginning of the movement, I felt that UBC's extension program must be responsive to the needs of our people, not just a reflection of the internal and discipline-oriented concerns of the University. I had lived for thirteen years with the kinds of conflict and difficulty this point of view created for the Extension Department, but chose this as the way we must continue to go.

A first priority, when I took up my duties, was to try to establish the best possible base of operations for the extension program. This included a clarification of university policies with respect to its adult education work, as satisfactory as possible relationships with the departments, schools and faculties with which we worked, and an improved financial base. These were a pre-occupation of the senior administrators in the Department throughout my time as Director. In the early

Victorian years, there was great pre-occupation with what was then referred to as "the condition of England question". For us, it was "the condition of Extension question".

From the early 1960s, John Friesen and his colleagues had been seeking a clearer policy from the University with respect to the organization of adult education on the campus. Their several submissions on aspects of the problem seemed to have led nowhere. In 1966, they submitted a comprehensive proposal to the Senate which after some preliminary discussion was referred to the faculties for comment. By the time that process was completed, and it thereby became clear that the proposal was not fully acceptable, the new Director was appointed. Our response was to suggest that we start again and to ask the Senate to appoint a committee to formulate its own proposals, involving all the interested parties.

The report of this committee, which was adopted by the Senate in June of 1970, reiterated the University's commitment to continuing education as an institutional role; called for more adequate financial support of the work; renamed the Extension Department as the Centre for Continuing Education; gave the professional schools and faculties the right to take over continuing education in their fields if and when they wished; and established the "Council for the Centre for Continuing Education" as a new policy body for the Centre's work. (The Board of Governors subsequently endorsed the report, but reserved judgment on the financial recommendations.)

This action was of considerable assistance in creating stronger and clearer understanding of the role and position of the Centre. It left some important policy questions unresolved, however, and the benefits we hoped to gain from the functioning of the Council for the Centre were largely unrealized because the University did not, on the whole, take the subsequent recommendations of that body very seriously. Through faculty representation on the Council and by means of a series of policy committees for continuing education work, we sought a strengthened understanding and liaison with the faculties. Eight faculty liaison committees were functioning by the late 1960s and they were augmented by special committees for certain major programs and by designated liaison persons in many of the departments.

The Centre sought further to strengthen the relationship between its work and the academic community by pressing for the creation of a Senate Standing Committee on Continuing Education, an action which was taken in 1973.

Financing the Centre's program was a major concern, and remained an unsolved problem. In the mid-1960s, the University generally was growing rapidly and budgets were increasing. But not so in the case of the Centre, which had been hit with the cuts of 1965 to 1967. So when the leaner days of the late 'sixties and early 'seventies came along, our finances were at a desperation level already and the further budget restrictions hit the Centre particularly hard. The University's financial support of the Centre became not only a dramatically and consistently smaller percentage of the Centre's income, but even more tellingly, a progressively smaller percentage of the University's funds.

This was one of the most discouraging aspects of involvement in the Centre's fortunes during the period and, it must be said, indicated more clearly than any other fact where this work stood in the minds of the university policy makers. What saved the day to some extent was the greatly increased fee income earned by the Centre's program and the fact that the University was relatively flexible in allowing these funds, which were earned by the outstanding efforts of the Centre's program staff, to be used in support of areas where growth was needed.

A second priority on becoming Director was to try to increase the availability of certain degrees by means of part-time study. This was the most sadly underdeveloped part of the University's extension program and we were--and are--decades behind many of the best universities in this respect. Although the extension program at UBC was rightly judged to be outstanding in many non-degree areas, it lagged far behind others in part-time degree studies.

Control over degrees, of course, rested entirely with the faculties and the Senate, so the Centre's role in bringing about change had to be largely one of persuasion and advice. Concerted action to this end had been taken as early as 1963 by extension, but by 1967, little if any change had taken place.

Two lines of action were decided upon. We set about first of all to expand the number of courses the University was offering within present policies. This involved the familiar evening courses during the regular term, launching the May to July "intersession" term and also obtaining a substantial "innovative grant" from the Barrett government for the expansion of course offerings by correspondence. This was done both to expand the opportunities for study and to demonstrate that there was a large demand for courses. Secondly, we encouraged the creation of a Senate committee to look at the whole matter and gave what support we could to the committee in its work. We subsequently played an active part in two presidents' committees which examined administration and development strategy for an expanded program. Enrollments in extension credit courses grew greatly during the period, thanks mainly to the rapid expansion of the intersession and by 1974, considerable advances had been made by the university with respect to policies in this area. Tight university budgets restricted the degree of implementation, but some progress was made.

Another priority was the expansion of continuing professional education. Shortly before I became Director, significant steps had been taken to this end with the appointment for the first time to our staff of full-time programers in law and engineering. In these and seven other professional fields, the Centre expanded its offerings by more than 75 per cent in two years and by 1968 continuing professional education was on a par with non-professional areas in terms of enrollments.

The fourth and final major priority--and perhaps the one I felt most personally--was to strengthen and develop the side of the Centre's program which had been hardest hit by the budget cuts, the general and liberal education non-degree programs. This had been the "glory" of the Centre's work at one time and had been dealt a crippling blow in the mid-'sixties. The role the University could and should play in these fields in today's world of rapid change and of searching for new values and satisfactions seemed to me to be as important as it ever was and I was resolved to build up our work in these areas by whatever means were available. As the most immediate effects of the budget crisis passed and it became possible for the Centre to assume some new financial commitments, two additional persons

were employed. One started as an assistant in the humanities program and subsequently took full charge of courses in the creative arts. The other person was employed to direct a new major area, the daytime program. This in turn spawned what became the Women's Resources Centre, and taken together they represented the single largest development of new activity in the period.

The other staff members in the general and liberal arts areas did some particularly creative work during these years, including such projects as: the joint programs with the Union of B.C. Municipalities and the B.C. School Trustees; a community development project in Penticton; the continuing and ambitious theme series in the humanities program; the expansion of educational travel offerings; the series of courses about municipal affairs and environmental concerns; the educational television series; the concluding stages of the leadership training project for Native Indian leaders; and the research and demonstration project in the field of aging. In my view, the accomplishments of the programmers in these areas of our work, in spite of the discouragements they faced, and in spite of the serious limitations on the resources available to them, represented one of the finest achievements in the entire history of the Department. Because of their imagination, skill, knowledge and hard work, they rendered outstanding service to the adult community in British Columbia and also provided national leadership in several significant program areas.

My recollections of the more than seven years during which I was Director of the Centre are many and varied. As I reflect upon them, it strikes me that perhaps the best way to convey some understanding of the texture of those times is to describe certain events and situations drawn from the period, ones which remain in my mind as illustrative of the nature, joys and problems of those days, as seen from the Centre.

I would stress, first of all, that these years were difficult ones for the University. The boom years of the 'sixties were largely past, budgets were tight as enrollments leveled off (everywhere but in the Centre) and the educational dollar had to be stretched. All segments of the University had their problems and there was generally a "tough" atmosphere in which to operate. To be in a marginal situation in a university at any time

produces problems. To be so placed in lean days is much worse.

Two incidents illustrate the perils of marginality. In one of the most difficult years financially, the administration made a substantial cut in the budget of Physical Plant. One response to this decision, made in consultation with the administration, was to close certain buildings on the campus during the evening hours. We had evening classes going on in some of those buildings, but the first thing we heard of the matter was when the new policy was announced to the campus as a whole.

Secondly, one of the most serious problems we faced was the lack of space on the campus which we could use for offering short courses which went on during the whole day. This need became increasingly acute as work in continuing professional education increased in volume. We had been trying for some years to persuade the University of our need for such space, but were told--and we accepted the fact--that there simply was none that could be made available. Then one day we read in the University Gazette that one of the faculties, whose activities in continuing education were but a small fraction of our own, was being granted the use of some new space for their work in this field. Those are the problems of marginality, and I never ceased to marvel at the resilience of spirit of my colleagues in the Centre who went about their tasks with commitment and energy in spite of repeated blows of this kind. But if they managed to keep themselves from becoming too disgruntled, it would be fair to say that they were not exactly "gruntled" either.

One of the real pleasures of those seven years was association with the widening community of those in the province who were professionally engaged in continuing education activities at the post-secondary level. It was a particular pleasure to work in close association with those responsible for continuing education at the other universities in the province. While at times we had difficulties arising from the rather standoffish attitudes of the university administrations towards each other, we in extension kept in close touch and created strong bonds of friendship and co-operation. As the college system developed progressively during the period, we worked in a variety of ways with those with parallel concerns in those institutions as well.

One of the most fascinating experiences during my time as

Director was my relationship with the Council for the Centre. Created pursuant to the recommendations of the Senate Committee on Continuing Education in 1970, the Council was made up of representatives of the faculties with which we worked, the faculty who taught in our programs, the community and the staff of the Centre, and it was to make policy for the development of the Centre's program. Many of the members of the Council engaged conscientiously in its affairs and tried to make it work. Its executive was hard working and several of its committees produced valuable reports.

However, there were two basic problems which were never overcome in my time. The first was that in spite of the best efforts of many of the people involved--and the Council discussed the problem on several occasions--the community representatives never felt that they were able to play a full part in the Council's deliberations. The awareness was always there--and the reality of it was reinforced repeatedly by the Council's experience--that the Council could make whatever recommendations it wished but they would be subject in the end to campus, largely faculty, decisions. Faculty views and politics, as a result, tended to dominate the Council's affairs.

Secondly, the Council soon learned that its views and recommendations were not taken seriously by other University authorities. As letters written on its behalf remained unanswered and its recommendations were ignored or rejected, sometimes in cavalier fashion, by other campus authorities, the message became increasingly clear, especially to the community representatives. In Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness, he mentions an incident where a warship is firing at a target in the jungle and having pitifully little effect. He describes it as "firing into a continent" and this phrase conveys something of the perception, as I understood it, of how the community representatives on the Council came to see their role. To their credit, most community members stayed on and fought the good fight. University authorities and decision making bodies, in the midst of generally difficult days of falling enrollments and tight budgets, showed little interest in or respect for the carefully prepared recommendations of the Council.

Among the encouraging experiences of my time as Director

were the discussions in the University Senate on the two main occasions when continuing education was discussed in principle in that body. The first was when the report of the Committee on Continuing Education was considered and so firmly endorsed in 1970. And the second was two years later when the Committee on Part-time Degree Studies called upon the University to make its resources and programs available in larger measure to others besides the full-time students. These discussions brought reaffirmation of a sense of commitment on the part of many of our colleagues to continuing education as a significant function of the institution. These were difficult years to achieve satisfactory implementation of the goals outlined in these reports, but the strong support expressed by many in the Senate was significant and formed a basis for modest progress.

I consider myself something of a Canadian nationalist, but these feelings do not prevent me from adopting some of what I consider to be the more sensible American spelling changes. When our Department became the Centre for Continuing Education, several of our senior people agreed that we preferred to spell it Center rather than Centre and began to do so. My understanding was that the two spellings are now optional for Canadians, and all modern Canadian dictionaries agree. But all Canadians do not, as we soon found out. In subsequent weeks, I was taken to task on the floor of the Senate over the matter, at least two of our instructors said they would not teach for us any more if we adopted the newer spelling and we ran into problems with official university publications, where the other version was the standard spelling. We soon decided we had more important battles to fight than that one and reverted to the English spelling. To be a Canadian is a complicated business.

One of the more significant incidents in the life of the Centre during this period involved a proposed diploma program in liberal studies. The notion was that there might be quite a number of people in the Greater Vancouver area who already had a university degree (or who were competent to function at that level) but who would in their adult life find it helpful to take a series of courses in the liberal arts areas designed to help them examine such topics as values, our society

and the nature of adult experience. The program was thought of as being made up largely of existing credit courses, augmented by special seminars and was seen to be roughly the equivalent of one year of university study. In order to test the degree of public interest there might be in such a program, two of our staff conducted a fairly extensive survey among alumni and other appropriate groups and we found a surprising amount of interest in the proposal.

We saw very clearly that the feasibility of such a program rested to a large extent on the willingness of the Faculty of Arts to take an interest in it. So after we worked out a tentative curriculum, to be used as a basis for discussion, and after we had received the endorsation of the Council for the Centre, we took the proposal to the Dean of Arts. He was not very optimistic, but he arranged for us to have a discussion with the department heads of his faculty at one of their regular meetings. There we received what can fairly be described as an unsympathetic, even somewhat hostile reception and the matter had to be dropped. That experience illustrates the way in which one of the Council's major recommendations was received and also indicates something of the temper of the times during this period.

Let me mention a final, and more encouraging aspect of the Centre's affairs. It was the willingness of the university administration to help us ameliorate the difficult situation we were in with respect to our non-credit activities in the liberal arts. The budget cuts in the mid-'sixties had resulted in our having to earn out of revenues the salaries of our staff members who were organizing non-credit courses. This was the principle on which the President and the Board had acted at the time. We felt that even if such a policy could be justified in the case of continuing professional education (which we were not prepared to concede) it did not apply with equal force to general education areas. And we found that such a policy was forcing us to restrict increasingly the services we could provide in such fields as citizenship and public affairs education. Although the amount of new money which became available for our budget during these years was pitifully small, the administration helped us to use it in the most strategic way by picking up portions of the salaries as a charge against

our university subsidy. The amounts were small, but what was made available was used in the most helpful way possible, thanks to a shift of policy from that of his predecessor on the part of President Gage and his administration. This understanding and support strengthened our budget only a little, but our spirits very much.

What are my dominant impressions of those years? First, it was a time of trying to find a new base upon which to build. The budget cuts of the 'sixties not only radically affected our financing but were also a manifestation of a profoundly altered institutional view of adult education from the one which had prevailed before. Now with a different President, the modus operandi had to be renegotiated and a new assessment made of where we stood. Second, it was a time of rebuilding. We had to get a head of steam up again within the Centre, determine as realistically as we could what was possible, and get on with it. As with Shakespeare's Chief Justice in Henry IV, we had to arm ourselves "to welcome the condition of the time" and do the best we could.

The times were difficult in many respects. Although the new administrations had a somewhat more favorable view of the University's role in continuing education, it was most difficult to repair the damage done earlier, now that we had entered times of such restricted resources and so many other stresses and strains within the University. The new administrations, though more favorable, were not disposed to alter our circumstances materially. The faculties and departments had their own problems and were not much interested in activities such as ours which must have appeared to them to involve undertaking even more responsibilities, when they did not have the resources to carry out the existing ones.

I regret that in this period the "distance" between the community and the University noticeably widened. Many forces within and beyond the University's control affected this change. Perhaps not the most important of these, but a significant one was the cut in our budget and the fact that Extension was not in a position to serve the community in the way it once had. Because we in Extension were a part of the relationship between town and gown, we felt the change very keenly and were

materially affected by it. Our reduced finances greatly restricted the type of service we could give the community and left us less able to respond to new needs in innovative ways.

The damaging results of the unfortunate decisions of the 'sixties are with us still. While it is true that the creation of additional universities, the Institute of Technology and the college system within the province has affected the role which UBC should be expected to play in the lives of British Columbians, the most suitable response was surely that we should become more selective and specialized, not more remote. The University, with few exceptions, has badly neglected aspects which should have been central to its role in adult education: innovative and experimental practice; research on key areas of practice; and an approach to programing which is based more on social needs and less on the ability of the learner to pay. During these years, the University, regrettably, has done less than its duty to the people of the province in the field of continuing education.

But if I had regrets concerning what it was possible to achieve in those years, I also take some satisfaction in what was accomplished. I had the pleasure of working with colleagues of outstanding talent, resourcefulness and devotion to their chosen task. Although they had many reasons for dissatisfaction with their lot, they, like John Buchan, "had never learned the art of discontent". They served both the University and the people of the province exceedingly well. What they were able to do, under most difficult circumstances, constituted a further memorable chapter in the proud history of university extension at our University.

ENVOY

Jindra Kulich

Continuing education seems to be entering a new phase in the mid-1970s in a world-wide context. Governments at all levels as well as educational institutions are giving it a more central position, admittedly to a varying degree in the different regions.

The demands placed on continuing education in all areas are increasing considerably while financial support is not always keeping in step. This situation presents a new challenge to governments, to administrations of educational institutions, and to professional adult educators.

In the British Columbia context, the extension arm of UBC no longer is the only university extension in the province, and a network of community colleges also has entered the scene. This calls for imaginative co-operation and co-ordination of extension activities among the three public universities and the community colleges.

At UBC, new administration under President Douglas Kenny seems to be aware of the important role of continuing education. The first manifestation of this was the appointment on July 1, 1975, of Walter Hardwick as Director of Continuing Education, with broad, university-wide responsibilities. Under his leadership, and with the administration's support, the Centre for Continuing Education is heading into new areas of experimentation, especially in the use of television in continuing education, and is trying to regain

some of the ground lost in the mid-1960s by re-establishing the first phase of Province-wide Programs through its Interior Programs based on Vernon.

However, in the new prevailing air of austerity and hard times lying ahead in the province (and indeed in the country as a whole), and with budget cuts in all areas of government finance, these new ventures and others still in the idea stage may not receive the full financial support deemed necessary to allow them to develop at the required rate.

Thus, the Centre for Continuing Education and its staff face a similar challenge in the near future as the Extension Department faced throughout its life. The challenge to serve the community by bringing to it university resources in the broadest sense and in accord with the changing needs, to serve the University by acting as its major vehicle for close contact with the community, and to serve both the community and the University by acting as a major bridge between them. In order to be true to its heritage and to carry out this task, the Centre will have to remain to be forthright in serving the community in the areas most appropriate to its university base, and in urging the University, where appropriate, to expand and extend its service to the community.

The years ahead will not be easy, but I have faith that with the support the Centre is getting from many quarters in the University as well as in the community, and with the commitment and dedication of its staff, the Centre will remain true to its calling in the next forty years.